through credit cards. The search at the premises, of the accused resulted in the recovery and seizure of unrecorded 2654 tablets of various Controlled Psychotropic Substances.

Investigations till date have not revealed any connivance of the Customs Officers in the case.

SC direction on candidates contesting elections

*14. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY :

SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India in a recent judgment has ruled that a candidate willing to stand for elections must declare his/her assets and criminal antecedents, if any;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to give effect to this directive of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Supreme Court of India has issued directions to the Election Commission of India to direct the candidates to furnish the following informations in an affidavit as part of their nomination papers:

(i) Whether the candidate is convicted/acquitted/discharged of any criminal offence in the past if any, whether he is punished with imprisonment or fine.

(ii) Prior to six months of filing of the nomination, whether the candidate is accused in any pending case, of any offence punishable with imprisonment for two years or more, and in which charge is framed or cognizance is taken by the court of law. If so, the details thereof.

(iii) The assets (immovable, movable, bank balance etc.) of candidate and of his/her spouse and that of his dependents.

(iv) Liabilities, if any, particularly as regards dues of any public financial institution or Government.

(v) The educational qualifications of the candidate.

(c) Since the directions had been issued to the Election Commission of India, the Government had requested the Commission to obtain extension of time from the Supreme Court so that the Government could discuss the matter with the political parties. However, the Election Commission did not accede to Government's request and has proceeded to issue an order asking the candidates to furnish the information mentioned in (b) above. The Government had convened a meeting of political parties on 8 July, 2002 and is in the process of preparing a draft Bill for further discussion with them so that the concern regarding criminalisation of politics could be met.

Guidelines relating to film certification

*15. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :

SHRI RAJU PARMAR :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Censor Anand to clear more screen nudity with 'X' rating", which appeared in the Asian Age, New Delhi, dated the 21st June, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to amend the existing guidelines and propose to clear films with extra doses of nudity and vulgarity with a special 'X' certificate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Comments of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) on the news-item had been called for. CBFC has informed that the news-item refers to a suggestion received by the Board in connection with an exercise undertaken to recommend to the Government various